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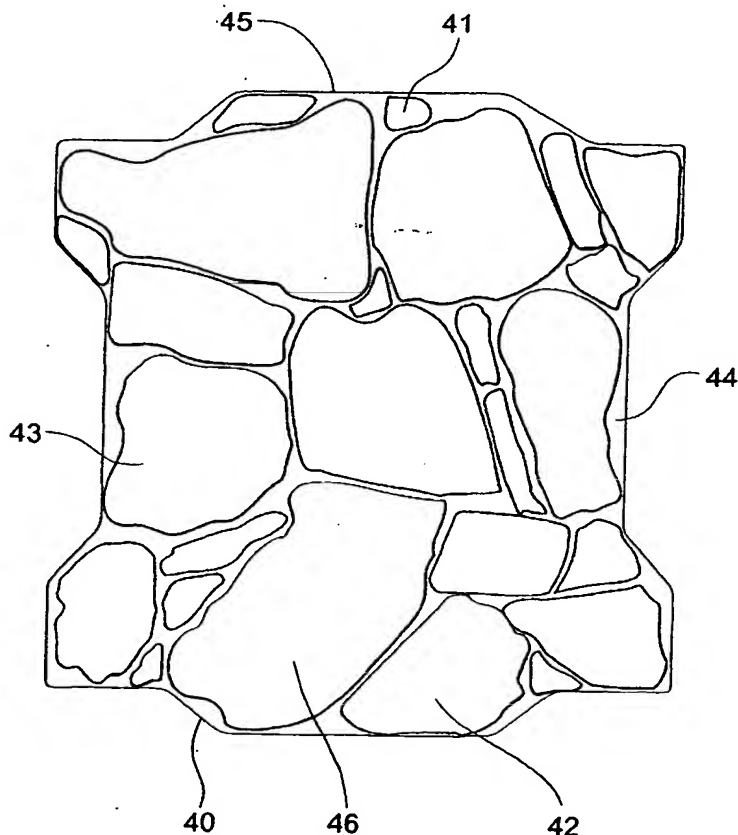
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(54) Title: METHODS FOR MAKING COMPOSITE TILES



(57) **Abstract:** A decorative paving tile or panel comprises a plurality of irregularly shaped stone elements of the same or differing thickness embedded in a backing layer or base to form a tile or panel of the predetermined thickness wherein the normally exposed surfaces of said stone elements lie in a plane substantially parallel to a mounting surface of said backing layer or base. A flowable displacement material may be employed in the interstices between adjacent stone elements and/or a boundary wall of a tile or panel mould to form a grouting channel. An irregular space between adjacent stone elements of adjacent tiles or panels allows the formation of an optically seamless tiled or panelled surface when grouted.

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